

To Members of the Michigan Legislature:

This letter is in our support of House Bills 4163 & 4162, created to amend both 1967 PA 227 and 1976 PA 333.

Current policy requires Michigan residents who need an elevator or mechanical lift system to move about different levels of their home, or for home entrance and exit capability due to mobility difficulties, to hire a commercially-certified contractor to install the system and inspect the work with a state-level inspector. The cost to hire a commercially-certified contractor as well as to acquire a state-level inspector creates an undue hardship for senior citizens and people with disabilities who are forced to pay nearly double the amount for the installation than their counterparts in neighboring states who are allowed to use residential contractors and local inspectors.

People for Quality Care support both House Bills, which would allow Michigan residents to obtain a *residential* contractor and *local* inspector to complete the installation. The change would be a less costly alternative for residents, would allow access to local contractors and inspectors and will promote the opportunity for wheelchair users and others with mobility challenges to remain living in their own homes.

By passing House Bills 4163 & 4162, you will be improving the lives of people with mobility challenges, their caregivers who may otherwise be forced to carry an individual up and down stairs and to families who wish to remain united under one roof. Passage of these House Bills would be a significant step to promoting efficiency and fairness for Michigan's seniors and people with disabilities.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Kelly Turner
Director
People for Quality Care

Our mission is to educate medical equipment users, caregivers, and health care professionals about policy changes that affect access to quality medical equipment and service. We promote home care, the most cost-effective, patient preferred sector of the health care delivery system. We encourage grassroots-level political and community participation to ensure that quality, innovation and service remain a part of the health care continuum.